

No. L-13060/03/2020-RE-VII  
Government of India  
Ministry of Rural Development  
Department of Rural Development  
(Mahatma Gandhi NREGA Division)

Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi  
Dated: 04<sup>th</sup> May 2020

To,

**The Additional Chief Secretaries/ Principal Secretaries/ Commissioners**  
Rural Development Department,  
All State/UTs

**Sub: - Guidelines for promoting Nutri-Garden for individual beneficiaries and community in convergence with State Schemes and NRLM.**

**Madam / Sir,**

You are aware that of the many proven interventions towards reduction of malnutrition, one of the most effective ways is ensuring household food security and dietary diversity on a sustained basis. Promoting Nutri-Gardens and household consumption of its produce led to decrease of illness and malnutrition. A well developed nutrition garden for an individual and community has the potential of fulfilling the daily dietary requirements of a family.

2. Supporting region specific Nutri-Gardens in the State/UTs will help malnourished children by providing year round dietary diversity. As such the development of Nutri-Garden is not a permissible activity under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS. However, some of the permissible works under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS may help establish such Nutri-Garden for individuals and communities. They are as follows:

**a. Permissible works for individual Nutri-Garden**

- i. Leveling /shaping of wasteland/fallow land for individuals
- ii. Construction of irrigation open well for individuals
- iii. Block plantation of horticulture trees in fields for individuals
- iv. Wasteland block plantation of horticulture trees for individuals
- v. Construction of recharge pits for individuals
- vi. Construction of soak pit for individuals



- vii. Construction of cattle shelter, goat shelter, piggery shelter and poultry livestock shelter for individuals
- viii. Construction of infrastructure for azola cultivation for individual
- ix. Construction of compost pit, vermi-compost structure, NADEP compost structure and Berkeley compost pit for individual

**b. Permissible works for community Nutri-Garden**

- i. Development of fallow land for community
- ii. Construction of irrigation open well for community
- iii. Boundary line plantation of horticulture trees for community
- iv. Block plantation of horticulture trees in government building premises for community
- v. Live fencing for the protection of Block Plantations, supported with ditch-cum-bund and for protection of Individual plants, tree guards prepared from locally available plant material like Bamboo etc.
- vi. Fields block plantation of horticulture trees for community
- vii. Raising of nursery for community
- viii. Construction of fishery pond for community
- ix. Construction of recharge pits for community
- x. Construction of soak pit for community
- xi. Construction of cattle shelter, goat shelter, piggery shelter and poultry livestock shelter for community
- xii. Construction of infrastructure for azola cultivation for community
- xiii. Construction of compost pit, vermi-compost structure, NADEP compost structure and Berkeley compost pit for community

3. Beneficiaries of the ICDS Programme of the Department of Women & Child Development, should be prioritized for Nutri-Garden related activities keeping in mind relevant provisions mentioned in Paragraph- 5 of the Schedule – I of the Act as below:-

*As per Paragraph 5 of the Schedule – I of the Act, works creating individual assets shall be prioritized on land or homestead owned households belonging to SC, ST, nomadic tribes, de-notified tribes, other families below the poverty line, women-headed households, physically handicapped headed households, beneficiaries of land reforms, the beneficiaries under PMAY(G), beneficiaries under ST and other traditional forest dwellers and on after exhausting above categories, on lands of the small and marginal farmers.*

4. Above works can be taken up individually or in combinations for complementing nutritional gardens. However, necessary dovetailing with related Departments is needed for assured supply of vegetable seeds, fingerlings, poultry etc. for supporting these



interventions. Any consumable item of repetitive nature will not be taken from the Scheme. Necessary convergent planning has to be ensured for effective implementation of nutritional gardens. SHG members, who have already taken up Nutri-Garden under DAY-NRLM, may be given priority

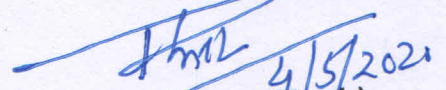
5. The priority should be given for community Nutri-Gardens in Government run schools including residential schools, Anganwadi Centers, Gram Panchayat land where the benefits can be easily provided to children, women and poor households of the villages. The guidelines for management of Nutri-Gardens and distributing the produce amongst beneficiaries should be devised at State /UT level. It should be ensured that only perennial plant species are selected under horticulture plantations which provide high nutritional and medicinal value. Right selection of these species can play a vital role in eradication of malnutrition.

6. An advisory has been issued by Rural Livelihood Division, Department of Rural Development, MoRD vide letter number K-11060/02/2019/NRLM (Livelihoods) Part 1 dated 10<sup>th</sup> December, 2019. The same can be referred while complimenting Nutri-Gardens in convergence with Mahatma Gandhi NREGA.

7. Works not permissible under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA, will not be taken up under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA, while complementing Nutri-Gardens initiatives.

This issues with the approval of competent authority.

Yours sincerely,



(Raghvendra Pratap Singh)  
Director (Mahatma Gandhi NREGA)  
Tel: 011 23384933

Encl: Rural Livelihood Division Advisory dated 10<sup>th</sup> December, 2019

Copy to:

1. The Secretary, Ministry of Women and Child development, GOI for information.
2. The Joint Secretary NRLM, MoRD, GOI